

Introduced by Senator Nguyen

February 19, 2016

An act to amend Section 124910 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to health care.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1421, as introduced, Nguyen. Expanded access to primary care.

Existing law, under the Expanded Access to Primary Care program, requires the State Department of Health Care Services to select primary care clinics that are licensed as community clinics or free clinics, as defined, or those that are exempt from licensure due to their connection to a federally recognized Indian tribe or tribal organization, as specified, to be reimbursed for delivering medical services to program beneficiaries. Existing law requires a clinic applying for these funds to demonstrate that it meets certain conditions, including, but not limited to, providing specified services, and either being located in an area or a facility federally designated as a health professional shortage area, medically underserved area, or medically underserved population, or being a clinic in which at least 50% of the patients served are persons with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, or both.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to one of these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 124910 of the Health and Safety Code
- 2 is amended to read:

1 124910. (a) (1) Each licensed primary care clinic, as specified
2 in subdivision (a) of Section 124900, applying for funds under this
3 article, shall demonstrate in its application that it meets all of the
4 following conditions, at a minimum:

5 (A) Provides medical diagnosis and treatment.

6 (B) Provides medical support services of patients in all stages
7 of illness.

8 (C) Provides communication of information about diagnosis,
9 treatment, prevention, and prognosis.

10 (D) Provides maintenance of patients with chronic illness.

11 (E) Provides prevention of disability and disease through
12 detection, education, persuasion, and preventive treatment.

13 (F) Meets one or both of the following conditions:

14 (i) Is located in an area or a facility federally designated as a
15 health professional shortage area, medically underserved area, or
16 medically underserved population.

17 (ii) Is a clinic in which at least 50 percent of the patients served
18 are persons with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal
19 poverty level.

20 (2) Any applicant who has applied for and received a federal
21 or state designation for serving a health professional shortage area,
22 medically underserved area, or *medically underserved* population
23 shall be deemed to meet the requirements of subdivision (a) of
24 Section 124900.

25 (b) Each applicant shall also demonstrate to the satisfaction of
26 the department that the proposed services supplement, and do not
27 supplant, those primary care services to program beneficiaries that
28 are funded by any county, state, or federal program.

29 (c) Each applicant shall demonstrate that it is an active Medi-Cal
30 provider by being enrolled in Medi-Cal and diligently billing the
31 Medi-Cal program for services rendered to Medi-Cal eligible
32 patients during the past three months prior to the application due
33 date. This subdivision shall not apply to clinics that are not
34 currently Medi-Cal providers, and were funded participants
35 pursuant to this article during the 1993–94 fiscal year.

36 (d) Each application shall be evaluated by the state department
37 prior to funding to determine all of the following:

38 (1) The applicant shall provide its most recently audited financial
39 statement to verify budget information.

- 1 (2) The applicant's ability to deliver basic primary care to
- 2 program beneficiaries.
- 3 (3) A description of the applicant's operational quality assurance
- 4 program.
- 5 (4) The applicant's use of protocols for the most common
- 6 diseases in the population served under this article.

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